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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/664,514	09/16/2003	Richard J. Schneider	IGT1P306C1/AC022 CON1	4643
79646	7590	01/22/2009		EXAMINER
Weaver Austin Villeneuve & Sampson LLP - IGT				RADA, ALEX P
Attn: IGT			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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			01/22/2009	PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/664,514	SCHNEIDER ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	ALEX P. RADA	3714	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 September 2008.

2a) This action is **FINAL**.                    2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 2-23 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 2-23 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>9/11/08;10/19/07;10/16/06</u> .	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application
	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ .

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Amendment***

In response to the Non-responsive amendment filed 01 September 2005 wherein applicant submits drawing corrections and claims 2-23 are pending in this application.

### ***Drawings***

1. The drawings were received on 13 September 2005. These drawings are accepted.

### ***Specification***

2. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they include the following reference character(s) not mentioned in the description: The description of NEW figure 3 is missing in the description. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d), or amendment to the specification to add the reference character(s) in the description in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(b) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either “Replacement Sheet” or “New Sheet” pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which the subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 2-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Carlson (US 7,260,834) in view of Raverdy et al. (US 2002/006831).

Regarding claim 2, Carlson discloses a network of gaming machines comprising: encrypting a server-initiated message on the network at a server (col. 6, lines 45-54; where server may encrypt a message to be sent to a gaming machine); transmitting the message to one of the gaming machines to establish communications with the gaming machine (col. 6, lines 45 – col. 7, line 34; wherein the message is received by the gaming machine to establish communication); decrypting the message at the gaming machine (col. 6, lines 45 – col. 7, line 34; wherein the message from the server is decrypted by the gaming machine). Carlson is silent in regards to paying an award responsive to the message.

Raverdy et al. (hereafter Raverdy) teaches a network of gaming machine in communication between selected participants in a game that is supported by a game server. The server awards game participants according to predetermined award criteria. The awards are generated and encrypted then the awards are transmitted to the appropriate gaming devices from the server. By having awards or messages encrypted and sent to the proper user devices, one of ordinary skill in the art would provide a secure transmission of information over a network using various cryptograph techniques.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Carlson to include operating upon the message of paying an award as taught by Raverdy to provide a secure transmission of information over a network using various cryptograph techniques.

Regarding claims 3 and 13, Carlson discloses wherein the encrypting the message and decrypting the message is accomplished with a private key pair (col. 3, lines 33-41).

Regarding claims 4 and 14, Carlson discloses wherein encrypting the message comprises signing the message (col. 8, lines 11-40).

Regarding claims 5 and 15, Carlson discloses wherein encrypting the message comprises verifying the message (col. 8, lines 11-40).

Regarding claims 6 and 16, Carlson discloses wherein encrypting the message comprises both signing and verifying the message (col. 8, lines 11-40).

Regarding claims 7 and 17, Carlson discloses wherein the method further comprises periodically changing the private key pair (col. 3, lines 33-41).

Regarding claims 8 and 18, Carlson discloses wherein the method further comprises identifying the key pair that encrypted the message (col. 3, lines 33-41).

Regarding claims 9 and 19, Carlson discloses wherein identifying the key pair comprises associating a session number with each key pair (summary; wherein the session key is similar to a time stamp).

Regarding claim 10, Carlson discloses a network of gaming machines comprising: establishing a first key at a first node associated with a gaming machine (figure 1 and col. 6, lines 45 – col. 7, line 34; wherein a first node having a first key shown); establishing a second key at a second node on the network remote from the gaming machine (figure 2 and col. 6, lines 45 – col. 7, line 34;

wherein a second node having a second key shown); encrypting a message at the second node (col. 6, lines 45 – col. 7, line 34; wherein the message is decrypted by the second node); transmitting the message to the first node as a first communication between the first and second node (col. 6, lines 45 – col. 7, line 34; wherein the message is communicated between the first and second node); and decrypting the message at the second node (col. 6, lines 45 – col. 7, line 34).

Regarding claim 11, Carlson discloses wherein the message originates at the first node and includes data indicating an amount played at the gaming machine (col. 4, lines 5-59; wherein messages from one node to another may contain secured information such as player credit card information, player wagering information and casino pay out information).

Regarding claim 12, Carlson discloses wherein the second node is associated with a network computer that receives messages from multiple gaming machines on the network, the messages, each including data indicating an amount played on one of the gaming machines (col. 4, lines 5-59; wherein messages from one node to another may contain secured information such as player credit card information, player wagering information and casino pay out information).

Regarding claim 20, Carlson discloses wherein the message originates at the second node and includes data indicating a bonus payable at the gaming machine (col. 4, lines 5-59; wherein messages from one node to another may contain secured information such as player credit card information, player wagering information and casino pay out information).

Regarding claim 21, Carlson discloses a network of gaming machines comprising: a first node associated with a gaming machine on the network (figure 1; wherein a first node shown); a second node located on the network remote from the first node to transmit messages and establish communications with the first node (figure 1 and col. 6, lines 45 – col. 7, line 34); a key pair (col. 3, lines 33-41), one key being associated with the first node and the other key being associated with the

second node (col. 6, lines 45 – col. 7, line 34); a process operable at each node to encrypt messages between the nodes using the key pair (col. 6, lines 45 – col. 7, line 34).; and a process operable at the first node to decrypt the messages from the second node (col. 6, lines 45 – col. 7, line 34).

Regarding claim 22, Carlson discloses wherein the key pair comprises a private key pair (summary).

Regarding claim 23, Carlson discloses wherein the key pairs are periodically changed and wherein the network further comprises a process operable to identify each key pair (summary).

***Response to Arguments***

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 2-23 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ALEX P. RADA whose telephone number is (571)272-4452. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday, 09:00-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter Vo can be reached on 571-272-4690. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/A. P. R./  
Examiner, Art Unit 3714  
/Peter DungBa Vo/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3714